tain Audit objections were raised. These relate to short levy of storage charges in respect of bulk cargo, avoidable expenditure due to incorrect estimation in respect of container freight station, improper certification of certain bills, avoidable project expenditure, wrong payment to a contractor in respect of main civil works etc. Audit observed that this has resulted in loss of revenue to the Port.

(c) No enquiry has been conducted by the Government in the matter. However, the Audit objections were examined by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port authorities who found that the objections were mostly technical in nature, and they have replied to the Audit accordingly.

(d) Does not arise.

पिछड़ी जातियों और भूतपूर्व सैनिकों के लिए बस परमिटों का कोटा

3232. श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार अभी हाल में दिल्ली में बसों के परमिट देने का जो विज्ञापन दिया है उसमें पिछडी जातियों, भूतपूर्व सैनिकों, आदिवासियों, हरिजनों, तथा महिलाओं के लिए कुछ कोटा आरक्षित करने का विचार रखती है ?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर) : मोटर वाहन अधिनियम, 1988 के प्रावधानों के अनुसार परमिट दिए जायेंगे । धारा 71, उपधारा 3 (ख) के अनुसार अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए आरक्षण उसी अनुपात में किया जाएगा जिसमें राज्य में सरकारी सेवाओं में सीधी भर्ती द्वारा नियुक्तियों के मामले में किया जाता है । अन्य बसें समान होने पर परमिट के लिए निम्न लिखित से प्राप्त आवेदनों को वरीयता दी जाएगी —

(i) राज्य परिवहन उपक्रम ।

(ii) सरकारी समितियां और

(iii) भूतपूर्व सैनिक ।

Conversion of State Roads into National Highway in Maharashtra

3233. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals in respect of the state roads received from Maharashtra pending with Government for declaring these roads as National Highways, and since when; and

(b) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The State Government of Maharashtra in April, 1990, had recommended eleven number of State Roads aggregating to 4,679 Km length for being declared as new National Highways. Since the 8th Five Year Plan has not been finalised as yet, it is too early to indicate by when a decision about new National Highways in various States including Maharashtra would be taken.

Development of Mangalore Port

3234. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive plan has been drawn up for the development of New Mangalore Port to cater to the increased needs of handling general cargo; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. A Master Plan Study (1985—2000 AD) for long-term planning of port facilities including general cargo handling facilities has been prepared for the New Mangalore Port.

(b) The Master Plan Study contains details about the port traffic and has recommended two berths each for the

7th, 8th and 9th Five Year Plans, container handling facilities, facilities for handling crude, facilities for handling POL products, coal handling facilities, Ro-Ro berths etc. The report also deals with investment planning, environmental aspects and a land use plan.

Privatisation Programme of Cochin Port Trust

3235. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cochin Porst Trust have drawn up a privatisation programme to give a major thrust to modernisation of its container transhipment terminal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes Sir. The Cochin Port Trust have proposed to go in for inviting private participation in the setting up, operation and management of Container Transhipment Terminal proposed to be set up at Vallarpadam.

(b) Advertisements have already been inserted by Cochin Port Trust in the leading newspapers inviting offers from persons/firms interested in making an investment in the above proposal.

Permission to general pass holders to Travel in Green line services

3236. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received requests to allow holders of General All route pass to travel in Green Line Services during peak hours;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to accept the above request; and

(d) if so, the manner thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) DTC have received some representations/suggestions in general regarding extension of the facility of general All route passes in Green Line Services.

(c) and (d) Green Line Services have been introduced with the objective of providing faster and comfortable travel facilities to those commuters who can pay a little more than the ordinary fares. Hence, a flat fare of Rs. 4/- per head per trip is charged in these services. There is no proposal before the Government to allow All route pass holders in Green Line Services.

Development of Highway sector

3237. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Development of highway sector has lagged behind due to constraints on financial resources;

(b) if so, whether a seminar was held recently at New Delhi in which private sector participation in highway projects was discussed;

(c) if so, the details of the points discussed in the seminar;

(d) whether the Government propose to hand over the task of development of National Highways to private sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Seminar was organised in order to seek the views of the private sector as well as financial institutions on various aspects concerning their involvement in such National Highway projects.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Government of India is contemplating to involve pri-